

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT: Gene Edward AUSTIN, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/607,010

Group Art Unit: 3733

FILED: June 26, 2003

EXAMINER: Shaffer, Richard R.

FOR: EXTERNAL FIXATION APPARATUS AND METHOD

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 39262/285776  
(PT-2700)

DATE: April 4, 2008

Mail Stop  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

---

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments to the claims and consider the following remarks in response to the Office Action mailed December 6, 2007 (the "Action").

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 3 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 15 of this paper.